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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/194,112	11/23/1998	MASAHIDE ONUKI	229-532PCT	2812
2292	7590	07/13/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			BLAU, STEPHEN LUTHER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3711	

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Reply Brief Noted

1. (Response to Arguments in Examiner's Answer) It is agreed that the examiner made an error on page 12 line 6 and on page 14 lines 6, 8, and 12. The tensile strength disclosed from Peker should have been recorded as 194 kg/mm² as stated in the Final Rejection on page 5 line 5 of the Examiner's Answer.
2. (Grouping of Claims) Due to applicant not disagreeing in the Reply Brief with the argument in the Examiner's Answer that groups 1 and 2 stand or fall together due to the groups having the same issues as shown on page 6 of the Brief, it is assumed that the applicant agrees with the examiner.
3. The case has been forwarded to the Board of Appeals.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steve Blau whose telephone number is (703) 308-2712. The examiner is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. If the examiner is unavailable you can contact his supervisor Greg Vidovich whose telephone number is (703) 308-1513. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858. (TC 3700 Official Fax 703-872-9306)


STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER